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THE North-Carolina Standard

WILLIAM W. HOLDEN,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
FRANK L. WILSON, Associate Editor.

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Letters to the Editor must come free of postage.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

THE WAKE MEETING.

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DESPOTISM IN CUBA.

The Washington Union draws a graphic picture of the horrid and unrelenting despotism which prevails in Cuba. It says:

"Whilst England and France are squandering millions of money, and sacrificing the lives of their subjects by thousands, in waging a war against what they call the barbarism of Russia, and for the advancement of Christian civilization, they are unholying a despotism in Cuba which has no parallel. The murder of Pinar is but one of a long catalogue of evidences of unrelenting cruelty and barbarism. There is no liberty in Cuba; there is no property there—no safety of life or honor in Cuba. A tyranny, against which even Europe would revolt, you can see any clear day from the promontories of Florida. There it is, the death of intolerance, the agony of military torture, the horror of the Inquisition, the ever-increasing and agonizing demonism of the slave trade, all in one, all collected from the barbarities of ages, brooding and writhing under those clouded mountain-tops to the east. And that is what England and France propose to protect!

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"The Cortes came to a vote to-day (March 8) of high importance—an importance the greater from the fact that it seems to prejudice the solution of the question left to the Assembly by M. Olazaga. It has affirmed in principle the existence of two chambers by a majority of 201 votes against 155.

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On the character of the conspiracy M. Luzziaga was not as explicit as he himself would no doubt have desired. He only ventured to insinuate a fact which people here would like to doubt—namely, that the impulse of this conspiracy came from the United States; and he immediately asserted with energy, and in a manner which produced a profound impression on the assembly, that all the conspirators arrested were acknowledged partisans of the maintenance of slavery.

On this occasion the minister made a declaration which reflects the highest honor upon him, as well as upon the cabinet whose sentiments he expresses. He said that, without refusing to compensate them by a suitable indemnity, the Spanish government was finally decided to put an end to a barbarous institution which all civilized nations condemned, and which M. Luzziaga did not fear to call a pest and a shame to humanity.

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it, (the Spanish Government) to resist, nor can it be expected to move, till it sees some further evidence of our determination to enforce the consideration of our demands."

And again, in his letter of January 18, 1854, just before leaving Madrid, he says: "Neither has their compunction been awakened by the scorching arguments I was instructed to place in their hands, nor their supineness disconcerted, by the significant suggestions of the President in his Message to Congress. They look at both with perfect indifference, and do not as much as trouble themselves even with resorting to soft words and empty protestations to lull our complaints into quiescence. My position, under such a state of things, has become so unendurable, that I doubt seriously whether it will be in my power to delay even a few weeks my return home. I long indeed to be off from a court where so little respect is paid our country, and where the opinion of our weakness is a constant encouragement to offer us fresh and indigestible digests."

The administration of President Pierce has heretofore performed its duty in regard to Spain and Cuba, but it has not been sustained, as it should have been, by Congress. The time is approaching, however, when that body will have to meet these difficulties fully and finally, and to act for the protection of the honor and rights of the country.

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The declaration of Luzziaga in relation to slavery in Cuba, appears to be final, and if carried out leaves but one course to be pursued by the government of the United States; and that is, as soon as the attempt is made to Africanize Cuba, to take possession of it and prevent an act which, if fully consummated, could not be otherwise than seriously and perhaps fatally injurious to the Southern States of this Republic. Spain will never be permitted to establish the Jamaica or St. Domingo system of emancipation within one hundred and fifty miles of the American coast.

We have recently received from the State Department at Washington, a copy in pamphlet form of the Ostend Conference, containing all the correspondence which has taken place since the Black Warrior outrage between the government of this country and that of Spain. This correspondence exhibits in a striking light the arrogance Spain and the patience and forbearance of the United States. In his letter of December 28, 1853, Mr. Soule says:

"England and France have succeeded in making us so odious to the people of Spain, that there is not a word or a look of insult which their officials would spare us if they but could believe that it would be borne with anything like composure of resignation. The leniency which we have so often put up with their insults, has induced the belief that we are not as strong and powerful as we seem to be. General Narvaez, when I was last in Paris, speaking of us with * * * went so far as to boast that with the sea and the land forces Spain had in and about the island of Cuba, she could whip us when she chose to do so. I thought, a first, that the Minister was bragging; but subsequent discoveries have convinced me that he actually meant what he said."

So too in his letter to Mr. Marcy, of the 3rd of May, he says: "The slowness of Congress to take up and act upon the recommendations of the President's Message of the 10th March, has emboldened

THE DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION for the nomination of a candidate for Governor, was held at Nashville on the 27th ultimo. Gov. Andrew Johnson was nominated by acclamation for re-election. He was opposed in 1852, by Mr. Henry, the "eagle orator of the West," but was elected by a triumphant majority. His opponent in the approaching campaign will be the Hon. M. P. Gentry, known to the Whig party as "play second-fiddle," as in Virginia, to the new secret association. Gov. Johnson is a host in himself, and cannot be beaten.

We give below the Resolutions adopted by the Tennessee Democratic State Convention. They are worthy, in every respect, of the noble Democracy of Tennessee:

"The representatives of the democratic party of Tennessee, in convention assembled, faithful to the usages of their party, adhering with steadfast faith to the great principles the successful enforcement of which have made the country powerful and prosperous at home, and honored and respected abroad, do

Resolved, That the American democracy place their trust in the intelligence, patriotism, and the discriminating justice of the American people; and that we regard this as a distinctive feature of our political creed, which we are proud to maintain before the world as the great moral element in a form of government springing from and upheld by the popular will; and we contrast it with the creed and practice of federalism, under whatever name or form, which seeks to play the will of the constituent, and which conceives no imposture too monstrous for the popular credulity.

Resolved, That the democratic party has never hesitated to make an open and candid declaration of its creed and principles; that we regard all secret political clubs as at war with the genius and spirit of our republican institutions; that the secret, oath-bound political club, commonly called the "know-nothings," in its attempts to abridge the rights of conscience and create religious tests in the selection of men for office, is violative of the constitution and dangerous to the public liberty; that it is but a weak invention of the enemies of the democratic party; and that we will fight this secret enemy with the same energy and ardor which in times past has enabled us to defeat and drive from the field open and undisguised foes.

Resolved, That the democratic party reaffirm those noble truths which are stated in our declaration of rights: "That all men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own conscience; that no man can be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or to maintain any minister against his consent; that no human authority can, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience; and that no preference shall ever be given, by law, to any religious establishment or mode of worship; that no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under this State."

Resolved, That Congress has the power under the constitution to establish a uniform rule of naturalization, but it has no power or authority under that instrument to prescribe the qualification of voters or to restrain the immigration of foreigners; that these powers are reserved to the States, and can alone be exercised by them; and the doctrine which assumes this authority for the federal government is of dangerous tendency, and is in direct violation of the sovereignty of the States.

Resolved, That the democratic party recognizes as one of its cardinal principles the right and capacity of the people to determine the nature and character of the laws and institutions of the State; that the constitution, that this great principle was clearly established by the compromise measures of 1850, and was carried into practice by the passage of the bill creating territorial governments for Kansas and Nebraska.

Resolved, That Franklin Pierce, President of the United States, has been faithful and true to the declarations made in his inaugural address; that the leading measures of his administration have been able, enlightened and patriotic, and deserve, as they receive our cordial and earnest support; that the honor of our flag and the rights of our citizens abroad have been, whenever and wherever assailed, promptly vindicated and protected; that he has maintained and respected the constitutional rights of every section of the Union, repelling with the whole power of his administration, every attack made by northern fanatics upon the rights and institutions of the southern States."

STATE FAIR OF 1855.

The Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society has been in session this week, preparing the Premium List, and assigning the "Committee of award" for the third annual State Fair in October next. There are now nearly a thousand members, and affairs are in a prosperous condition. There will be double the amount of last year to award in premiums. Our planters, farmers, mechanics, and gardeners throughout the State should join this Society and help out the good work; much benefit has been already derived from the Society, and it is just in its infancy. Let us have, by the Fall, ten thousand names enrolled at least.

The officers of the Society are: Thomas Ruffin, of Alamance, President; John S. Daney, of Edgecombe, Richard Smith, of Halifax, Vice-Presidents; Thomas Jeff. Lemay, of Wake, Secretary; Fabius Haywood Hutchings, of Wake, Treasurer. Executive Committee—Crutcher, of Franklin, Chairman, Eaton and Hamilton, of Granville, Whitaker, Taylor, Poole, Price, Jones, Cooke, Partridge and Jordan, of Wake; MacRae, of New Hanover, Meares, of Brunswick, and MacDaniel, of Nash.

LATEST FROM HAVANA.

The steamer Black Warrior arrived at New York on Tuesday, with Havana dates to the 29th. Numerous additional arrests have been made. The only offence of the persons arrested is believed to be uttering expressions of sympathy for Pinto.

Mr. Robertson, acting United States Consul, is understood to have sent in so strong a protest against the so-called trial of Estampes and Felix, American citizens, as to have induced the tyrant Concha to pause.

Six companies of negro militia were to be established in Havana.

ELECTION IN RICHMOND. At the municipal election held in Richmond, Va. on Wednesday last, the Know Nothings carried their ticket by about 1,200 majority. This was expected, as the City is largely Whig.

The Enquirer says "Nearly the entire Whig and Know Nothing vote, it is believed, was polled, while hundreds of Democrats, aware of the power of their opponents in this Gibraltar of Whiggery, did not deem it necessary to vote. There were but 715 Democratic votes polled, while it is well known they can poll 1,200. The usual Whig vote was polled yesterday, being about the same number that party cast at the last Presidential election."

DEATH OF REV. J. P. PURVIS.—The Rev. John Purvis, an aged Baptist Minister, died at his residence in Harnett County, formerly Cambridge, on the 27th ultimo.

ECUADOR AND THE UNITED STATES.

Translated for the "North Carolina Standard," from the Annual Report of the Minister of Foreign Relations of Ecuador, made to the National Congress of that Republic, at its late session in Quito.

Extract from the Minister's Report:

"THE UNITED STATES.—This nation is in advance of all the powers of the earth, in the eminent success that has crowned her efforts in demonstrating to the world the philanthropic spirit and ameliorating tendency of Democratic institutions. Her area having been vastly expanded, and her power increased by an enlightened recognition of the rights of the masses and a broad extension of the liberties of mankind. She continues rapidly to progress in her high and honorable career of national aggrandizement—and still must thus advance, while she proclaims and practices those exalted principles of civil liberty that gave triumph to the Republican cause under the immortal Washington, and which have been so well sustained by the valor and statesmanship of his successors.

The Government of that nation promptly adopted legal measures with regard to the associations of filibusters in California for the purpose of thwarting those exalted principles of civil liberty that gave triumph to the Republican cause under the immortal Washington, and which have been so well sustained by the valor and statesmanship of his successors.

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